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ABSTRACT

This companion book to Beyond the Bean Seed: Gardening Activities for Grades K-6 uses children's literature related to gardening, gardeners, designing gardens, multicultural literature, ecology, the environment, and the impact of plants on world economies and politics, to connect gardening in all its aspects to creativity, problem solving, imagination, and literacy. It provides garden-based experiences and literacy events designed to engage children in authentic relationships with the natural environment, adults, and peers. This book is composed of teaching ideas and suggestions for books related to gardening, creativity, and literacy activities. In Chapters 1 and 2 children are encouraged to use their imaginations as they dream of a variety of gardens and use various elements of garden design such as color, line, form, as well as fragrance and texture in order to translate their dreams into actual gardens. In chapters 3 and 4 children are encouraged to imagine and create specialized gardens, many with a particular purpose or theme. In chapters 5 and 6 children are encouraged to think globally as they study how plants and horticultural practices influence politics, economics, and the environment. Chapter 7 introduces gardening readers to the beautiful legends, folk tales, and myths created around plants while chapters 8 and 9 are about gardeners in fiction and in real life. (JRH)

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